

Docket Number 4481-022**Serial Number 09/598,890****Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph of the Detailed Description portion of the disclosure with the following amended paragraph:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The functional components required for the laboratory microchip system under discussion and the typical functional sequence in an experiment using such a system are schematically represented in Fig. 1. In this functional sequence, a microchip (outlined in Fig. 2) is required. In this representation, a distinction is drawn between the material flow 1 that arises in such a system (i.e., the investigated substances or the used reagents) and the information flow 2 in relationship to the controlled movement of the individual substances on the microchip; and in relation to the detection of the experimental results.